



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 9 June 1967



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LATE ITEM

Arab States -
Israel

Israeli spokesmen told the press this morning that Egyptian troops had launched an attack on Israeli troops near the Canal, thus violating the ceasefire.

DAILY BRIEF
9 JUNE 1967

1. Arab States -
Israel

The ceasefire was observed on all fronts during the night. Further Israeli action is still possible against Iraqi forces in Jordan, however, since Baghdad has yet to accept the ceasefire.

The Israeli commander in Sinai reported that his forces were camping on the banks of the Suez Canal and the Red Sea.

Tel Aviv is beginning to discuss the terms it hopes to achieve in a permanent settlement with the Arab states. These include the establishment of an autonomous province of Jordan on the West Bank in which all Arab refugees could hopefully be settled.

The Israelis also intend to insist on the demilitarization of the Gaza strip and the Sinai border, guaranteed access to the Gulf of Aqaba, and an as yet undefined "new status" for a unified Jerusalem. The latter would guarantee people of all religions access to the holy places.

As for the Arab side, attention is now turning to what can be salvaged in post-ceasefire negotiations. Nasir, after earlier proposing an Arab summit as a means of preserving Arab unity, is now proposing the publication of a ten-point joint resolution to be signed by all Arab chiefs of state. The proposed statement trots out all of Nasir's propaganda attacks on the US and other "colonialist forces supporting Israel." On balance, it looks like a rather feeble effort to save face.

Signs are growing that Egypt's defeat has badly damaged Nasir's prestige in the Arab world. He will have trouble getting many other chiefs of state to adhere to his "joint resolution."

2. Arab States

Arab resentment against the West continues to threaten US facilities. Libya appears to be a particularly dangerous spot at the moment.

3. Soviet Union

The Soviets are finding it hard to conceal their shock over the rapid Egyptian military collapse. A Soviet

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[REDACTED] could not understand "how our intelligence could have been so wrong." He asked despairingly, "How could we have gotten into such a mess?" Comments from other Soviets, while more restrained, reflect a similar state of mind.

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4. Brazil

President Costa e Silva is still sidestepping the difficult economic decisions necessary to support the country's vital stabilization program. Anxious to avoid offending any pressure group, he is drifting into policies that could undermine much of the good work begun under Castello Branco.

5. Panama

President Robles is trying to keep student agitators off balance until the Canal treaties come up for ratification. This is the reason for unusually harsh sentences handed out to a number of extremist-led students who engaged in a minor ruckus on Tuesday. The bigger, Moscow-oriented student organization at the university is lying low for now, however, and saving its ammunition for the treaty issue.

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6. South Korea

Yesterday's legislative elections were dirtier and much less orderly than the April presidential elections.

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Returns are only beginning to come in, but we have no reason to doubt that the government's better organized and financed political machine will come out on top.

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